

# NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

From the Lockport Courier.

**Letter from Hon. Wm. Hunt.**

To the Vice-Chairman of the XXIX Congress.

I have recently received several letters from partial friends in both Chambers, telling me to accept a relection to the House of Representatives. I can't but feel it due to you that I should announce my determination to retire from Congress at the end of my present term. It seems proper that I should disclose my intention at an early day, and in the most frank manner, that ample opportunity may be had for free and deliberate consultation in the choice of a successor. My resolution to retire proceeds mainly from a desire to pursue a private life and resume pursuits which I have long neglected. I persuade myself that the indulgence of this wish is consistent with those sentiments of public duty which I am not insensible.

In surrendering the Representative trust with which you have repeatedly honored me, I cannot express my feelings of gratitude inspired by the frank manifestations of your confidence. While I live, I shall not cease to cherish, among my broadest recollections, a lively remembrance of the generous zeal and constancy you have displayed in my support. In my poor efforts to serve you, I have been animated by your approving voice, and sustained by continual proofs of your friendship. My only regret is that I have a consciousness that my duty for neutrality has not been equal to my own wishes, or to the obligations which my country imposed upon me. During the whole period of my Congressional service, my convictions of duty have placed me in opposition to the general policy pursued by the Executive branch of the Government, and until the present session, I was one of a political minority in the body to which I belonged. It was a majority firm and fearless in spirit, but powerless in numbers.

Its efforts to sustain wise and useful measures, or to resist pernicious legislation, were generally overpowered by the numerical force of the majority. The Whig Representatives have been compelled to give way to the overthrow of the Protective policy, the restoration of the Sub-Treasury scheme, the abandonment of our River and Harbor Improvements, they have seen Texas annexed and the country plunged into a war of conquest, in defiance of their earnest warnings, remonstrances and appeals. After a service of six years, in which I have seen many mischiefs enacted, my resolution to retire will hardly surprise you.

My experience here has but served to strengthen my conviction that the success of Whig principles is inseparable to the prosperity and happiness of the country. As a citizen of the free state, you will find me ever ready to associate with you, with unabated zeal and energy, in supporting the men and measures of the Whig party.

A change in the administration of the Government is imperatively demanded. The National honor and well-being requires it; in my judgment it is necessary to the stability of our National institutions.

In the present posture of affairs I can see but one practical way to accomplish such a change. The election of Gen. Taylor is the only alternative. I am aware that many of you desire a different selection. In this my sentiments agree with you. While Mr. Clay and his friends have personal avilities, after learning that the Kentucky Delegates were unfavorable to his nomination, it appeared to me that the candidate should have been taken from the North, on the grounds of justice and expediency. But the Free States are not united in their desire to see Gen. Taylor elected. We must declare for Gen. Taylor, since voices having been given for him by every State in the Union. Whatever regret or disappointment may have been occasioned, I cannot but feel that we are bound in honor and patriotism to support the nomination. Personal preferences, in such a crisis, are subordinate to public welfare.

If there were no other reasons for supporting Gen. Taylor, it would be enough for me to know that in electing him we defeat Gen. Cass, and arrest the policy of the party in power. Gen. Taylor's principles are so far removed from those of the worst measures of this Administration will be continued. In respect to our foreign policy, he has labored incessantly in the Senate to expose the secretiveness of the cabinet, and of his department. In every branch of our foreign relations he would be guided by principles of justice and moderation. He was opposed to the Annexation of Texas, and is adverse to any future acquisitions. We have good ground to hope that, if his administration is continued, the territorial aggrandizement and rapacity will be espoused from our Country.

Gen. Taylor is a Whig in the same sense that Washington and Harrison were Whigs. We have the most satisfactory assurance that, in form of a bill, he will be forward to the adoption of the Tariff.

The Whigs have chosen him for their candidate, and for me, I feel no difficulty in sustaining him. Though a military man who has served his country in battle, Gen. Taylor is an enlightened friend of peace. He has seen much of war, and would be inclined to oppose it in every human evidence. In our foreign relations he would be guided by principles of justice and moderation.

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